



NEWS RELEASE

18-255a

Date: Wednesday, November 21, 2018

District: 8 – Riverside/San Bernardino

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



NO CALTRANS LANE CLOSURES AND SNOW?

SAN BERNARDINO – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 8 is giving everyone a break – there will be no planned lane closures for the Thanksgiving holiday from Wednesday, November 21 at 6:00 a.m., to Monday, November 26 at 6:00 p.m. Be advised that local events may have closures and that closures may be necessary for emergencies such as accidents, weather and other unforeseen issues.

The National Weather Service (NWS/NOAA) is forecasting the possibility of snow in higher elevations (5,000 feet and above) beginning tonight through the holiday weekend. Rain is also predicted for the Inland Empire, mountain and desert regions with up to a half inch or more in recent burn areas.

The following tips will make your travel more pleasant and get you prepared:

1. **BRINGS CHAINS IF YOU ARE TRAVELING TO MOUNTAIN AREAS – EVEN IF THE WEATHER IS NICE!** (Big Bear, Lake Arrowhead, Running Springs, Wrightwood and Idyllwild).
2. **Use the Caltrans Quickmap to check on road and chain conditions** <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/>
3. Be advised that debris flows can be possible to rain events in the Cranston and Holy Fire burn areas on State Routes 74 and 243. **Roads are subject to closure at any time if it is unsafe for motorists to travel.**
4. Flash flooding and debris flows may be possible in desert and mountain regions – NEVER try to drive through running water or pass road closed signs. Your life depends on it.
5. Rockfall is possible on any mountain roadway during rain and snow events. **AVOID TRAVEL DURING STORM EVENTS.**

The best time to travel is during non-peak hours which is late in the evening or very early mornings. Wednesday has become a high-volume travel day and of course, Sunday and Monday when people return from their holiday trip. The highest traffic volume routes are Interstate 15 (I-15) between Fontana and Barstow, Baker to Las Vegas and on Interstate 10 (I-10) between Beaumont and Indio.

Plan ahead, leave plenty of time for delays, stop for food/water and take rest periods. To check for California State Roadside Rest Area status please go to <http://www.dot.ca.gov/maintenance/statewidera.html> and weather at <https://www.noaa.gov/weather>.

DISPOSE OF LITTER AND BROKEN SLEDS PROPERLY – IN THE TRASH! *As always, please designate a driver – never drink and drive!*

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BE WORK ZONE ALERT

